

ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION - 2016
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB957

Hearing Date: Monday February 01, 2016
Committee On: Appropriations
Introducer: Speaker Hadley
One Liner: Authorize additional uses for certain funds and provide for certain transfers

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:
Advanced to General File with amendment(s)

Vote Results:

Aye:	8	Senators Bolz, Cook, Haar, Hilkemann, Kuehn, Mello, Stinner, Watermeier
Nay:	1	Senator Kintner
Absent:		
Present Not Voting:		

Verbal Testimony:

Proponents:
Gerry Oligmueller

Representing:
Governor's Office

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB957, introduced by the Speaker at the request of the Governor, is the Funds Transfer Bill. The original bill authorizes and provides for transfers between various funds.

Explanation of amendments:

The Committee Amendment to LB957 becomes the bill.

Section 1 allows the Nebraska Natural Resources Commission to approve a partial allocation to a program, project, or activity based upon available unallocated funds in the Water Sustainability Fund, but the amount of unfunded allocations shall not exceed \$11 million.

Section 2 requires the Treasurer to transfer \$100,000 from the Nebraska Youth Conservation Program Fund to the Cowboy Trail Fund. Game and Parks shall use this money for the development of undeveloped portions of the Cowboy Trail as long as any money expended is matched both by a public entity and by a private entity.

Section 3 authorizes transfers from the Motor Vehicles Cash Fund to the Vehicle Title and Registration System Replacement and Maintenance Cash Fund. This section also requires a transfer of \$5,325,000 on or before June 30, 2017.

Section 4 authorizes the State Energy Office to utilize up to ten percent of the Clean-Burning Motor Fuel Development Fund for necessary costs in administering the Nebraska Clean-Burning Motor Fuel Development Act.

Section 5 amends section 71-5714. The State Treasurer is required to transfer the unobligated balance existing on July 1, 2016 from the Tobacco Prevention and Control Cash Fund to the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund.

Section 6 transfers the unobligated balance in the Stem Cell Research Cash Fund existing on July 1, 2016 to the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund.

Section 7 transfers the balance of any money in the Nebraska Youth Conservation Program Fund, after the transfer of \$100,000 to the Cowboy Trail Fund found in section 2 of this amendment, to the Niobrara Council Fund. This transfer shall take place on the effective date of the act.

Section 8 requires 25% of the General Fund portion of Medicaid fraud settlement funds deposited into the Medicaid Fraud Settlement Fund in the Department of Health and Human Services annually be transferred to the Health Care Homes for the Medically Underserved Fund. These funds shall be distributed proportionately based on the unduplicated number of patients served in the previous year by federally qualified health centers as reported through the uniform data system of the Health Resources and Services Administration of the United States Department of Health and Human Services.

In addition, 5% of the General Fund portion of the Medicaid fraud settlement fund deposited into the Medicaid Fraud Settlement Fund in the Department of Health and Human Services annually shall be deposited in the Health Care Homes for the Medically Underserved Fund for distribution to federally qualified health centers in Nebraska. These funds shall be used for persons receiving services under section 330(h) or 330(i) of the federal Public Health Services Act.

Section 9 allows the State Visitors Promotion Cash Fund to be used to contract with the Department of Administrative Services to provide support services, including, but not limited to, accounting and personnel functions.

Section 10 and 11 change the authorized uses for the Nebraska Arts Council Cash Fund.

Section 12 transfers an amount not to exceed \$500,000 from the General Fund to the Nebraska Cultural Preservation Endowment Fund annually on December 31 beginning in 2017 and continuing through December 31, 2026.

Section 13 eliminates obsolete language regarding Cash Reserve Fund transfers. Additionally, section 13 transfers \$27,275,558 from the Cash Reserve Fund to the Nebraska Capital Construction Fund on or before June 30, 2016 as well as \$13,700,000 from the Cash Reserve Fund to the Critical Infrastructure Facilities Cash Fund on or before June 30, 2016.

Section 14 transfers \$500,000 from the Records Management Cash Fund to the Information Management Revolving Fund on or before June 30, 2016.

Section 15-20 extend to June 30, 2030 the Board of Regents' authority to provide matching funds up to \$11 million per year to supplement amounts appropriated from the General Fund pursuant to section 85-421. Similarly, the Board of Trustees of the Nebraska State Colleges authority is extended through June 30, 2030 and the matching amount is increased from \$1,240,000 per year to \$1,440,000 per year. Legislative intent that appropriations to the University of Nebraska Facilities Program of 2006 not be reduced until all contracts and securities relating to the construction and financing of the projects are completed or paid is extended through June 30, 2030,. Several projects are added to the list of authorized projects.

Section 21 Creates the Critical Infrastructure Facilities Cash Fund in the Department of Natural Resources. The Fund shall be used to provide a grant to a natural resources district to offset costs related to soil and water improvements intended to protect critical infrastructure facilities within the district. This includes military installations, transportation

routes, and wastewater treatment facilities.

Section 22 transfers \$4 million from the General Fund to the Site and Building Development Fund on or before June 30, 2016.

Section 23 and 24 are the repealer sections.

Section 25 is the emergency clause.

Heath Mello, Chairperson